1	2	3	4
14. Tamil Nadu	638	1504	2465
15. Uttar Pradesh	1580	3315	6105
16. West Bengal	959	1597	3450
17. Himachal Pradesh	213	325	774
18. Manipur	133	194	469
19. Meghalaya	92	134	382
20. Nagaland	140	241	527
21. Sikkim	..	37	104
22. Tripura	138	200	561
TOTAL:	11087	20843	39452

Declaration of Andaman and Nicobar Island a free port

1316. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:
SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since taken a decision in regard to the declaration of Andaman and Nicobar Island as a free port;

(b) whether it is a fact that Non-Resident Indians have shown interest in setting up industries there if it is declared a Free port; and

(c) if so, by when a decision is likely to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Some suggestions have been received from Non-Resident Indians amongst others for the development of a Free Port in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

(c) The proposal requires to be evaluated indepth having regard to various issues. It would be difficult to indicate at this stage when the exercises in this regard would be completed.

Reduction in non-development expenditure

1317. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India has suggested a reduction in non-development expenditure from the current level of Rs. 34,116 crores to Rs. 27,000 crores a year to garner additional resources for the Seventh Plan; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of the Government to this suggestion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI): (a) In a background paper prepared by Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India for one of its workshops it has been suggested that non-developmental expenditure may be reduced by reducing food and fertilizer subsidies and by raising issue prices of foodgrains and fertilizers.

(b) It is always Government's endeavour to keep down the subsidies to the minimum level possible. However, in the context of the current drought situation, the suggestion that food grain and fertilizer subsidy should be reduced by raising prices is not feasible. These subsidies